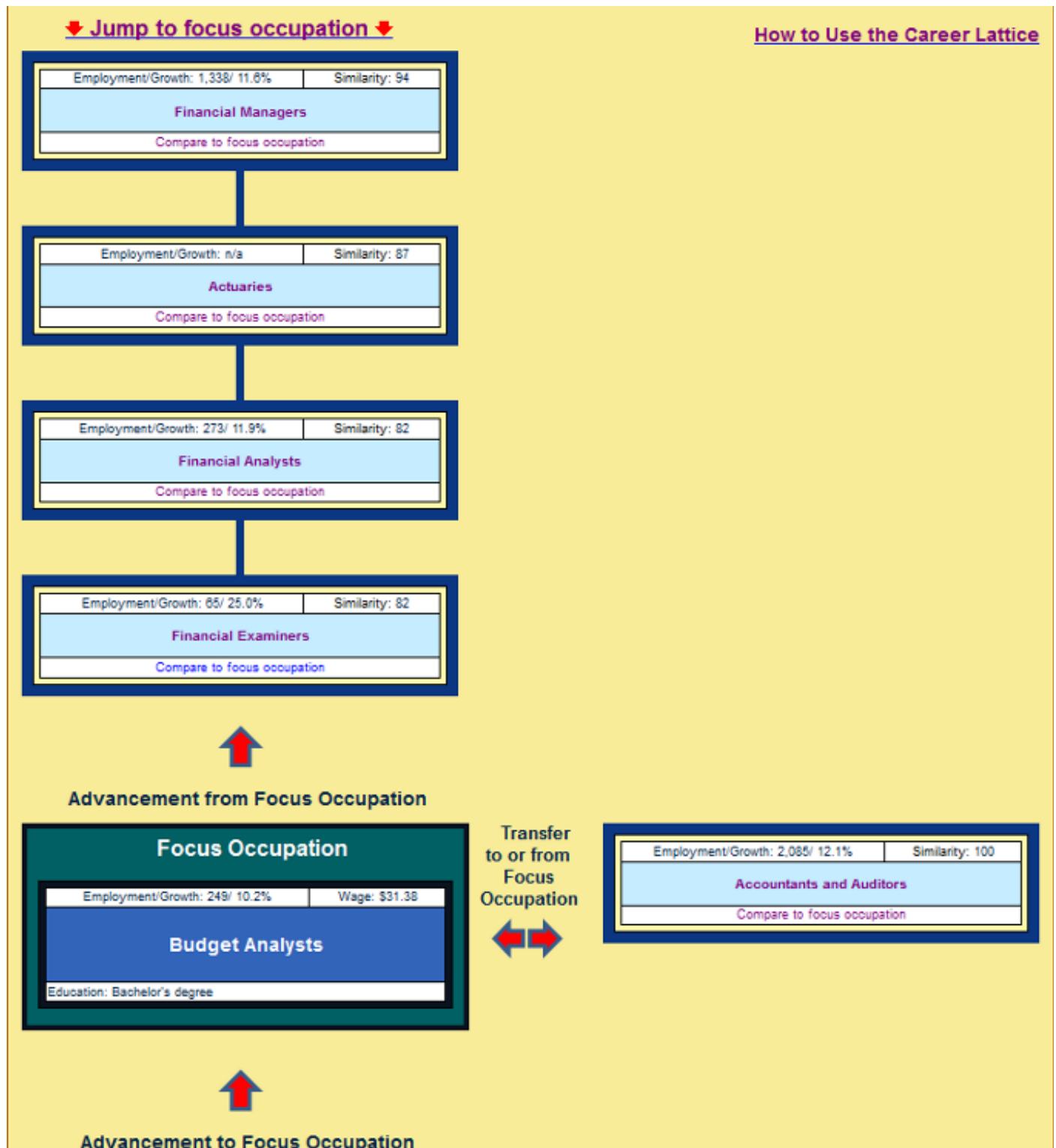


## Advancement to a Goal Occupation

The Alaska Career Lattice is a useful tool for finding potential entry-level or intermediate occupations for advancement to a goal occupation.

For example, let's say Ryan is exploring Budget Analysts as a potential goal occupation and wants to find a good place to start.

From the Alaska Career Lattice home page, Ryan would select Budget Analysts from the list of occupations to bring up its career lattice.





Ryan should click on “Jump to Focus Occupation.” Budget Analysts now appears in the center of the lattice and is referred to as the “focus occupation.” All others are “associated occupations.” Those below the Budget Analysts box are the occupations that may lead him toward his goal.

When there is more than one occupation on the same rung, it means they are at a similar level when considering wages, knowledge/education requirements, and skills and abilities. For Ryan, Accountants and Auditors might be another occupation to consider, as he could easily make the change to a Budget Analyst position if the opportunity arose.

All occupations on a career lattice page are associated with the focus occupation, but are not necessarily directly linked to *each other*. In other words, the lattice layout **does not** imply that Ryan must traverse each occupation or rung to attain the goal occupation. For example, without any additional information, Ryan should not assume that as a Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerk (in the bottom rung) he would have to become a Business Operations Specialist before advancing to Budget Analyst.

Information about each associated occupation is provided above and below the occupation title. At the top left of the box is employment and projected growth for 2008 through 2018. The top right gives a similarity score that reflects how related the two occupations are based on our analysis. The maximum score is 100.

### Comparing Occupations

Let’s say Ryan decides to consider Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks as an entry-level position to work toward his goal of becoming a Budget Analyst. Ryan can click the link under the occupation title for a comparison of the associated occupation and the focus occupation. This will bring him to a page that compares Budget Analysts and Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks in several important areas.

## Comparisons of Job Characteristics

**Focus Occupation:** Budget Analysts (13-2031)

**Associated Occupation:** Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)

[Compare Knowledge](#)  
[Compare Skills](#)  
[Compare Abilities](#)  
[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)  
[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<	Associated occupation element is lower
<<	Associated occupation element is much lower
0	Associated occupation element is at a similar level
>	Associated occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Associated occupation element is at a much higher level

### Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 90

Focus Occupation: Budget Analysts (13-2031)

Associated Occupation: Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)

**Associated Occupation: Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)**

Focus Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Focus Occupation's Rating	Associated Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Associated Occupation	
Economics and Accounting	4.4	19.2	11.5	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Mathematics	9.2	15.9	12.0	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Administration and Management	8.4	14.7	7.9	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Clerical	7.3	12.9	15.9	>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Personnel and Human Resources	5.6	9.1	5.2	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required

Skills	Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 88				
Focus Occupation: Budget Analysts (13-2031)					
Associated Occupation: Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)					
Focus Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Focus Occupation's Rating	Associated Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Associated Occupation	
Mathematics	6.2	10.6	9.6	<	A higher skill level may be required
Systems Analysis	6.5	9.7	5.6	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Management of Financial Resources	3.3	9.5	4.8	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Operations Analysis	5.0	8.6	2.3	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required

Abilities		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 96			
Focus Occupation: Budget Analysts (13-2031)					
Associated Occupation: Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)					
Focus Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Focus Occupation's Rating	Associated Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Associated Occupation	
Number Facility	6.3	15.0	10.7	<<	Development of abilities in this area may be required
Written Comprehension	11.0	14.3	12.5	<	Improvement in current ability level may be required
Mathematical Reasoning	6.3	14.0	11.2	<	Improvement in current ability level may be required
Oral Comprehension	12.5	13.5	12.8	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Oral Expression	12.4	13.2	11.5	<	Improvement in current ability level may be required
Problem Sensitivity	11.1	12.2	10.0	<	Improvement in current ability level may be required
Deductive Reasoning	10.6	11.8	9.2	<	Improvement in current ability level may be required
Written Expression	9.8	11.8	11.9	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Inductive Reasoning	10.2	11.6	9.0	<<	Development of abilities in this area may be required
Memorization	5.6	7.6	6.2	<	Improvement in current ability level may be required

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 71
Focus Occupation: Budget Analysts (13-2031)		
Associated Occupation: Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)		
Exclusivity of		Exclusivity of

WORK ACTIVITIES	Activity
Compile data for financial reports	62
Compute financial data	53
Prepare financial reports	67
Use accounting or bookkeeping software	81
Use spreadsheet software	18

Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common	Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 83
<b>Focus Occupation:</b> Budget Analysts (13-2031) <b>Associated Occupation:</b> Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)	
Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Business function specific software	1
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Data management and query software	1
Development software	4
Finance accounting and enterprise resource planning ERP software	2
Industry specific software	1
Information exchange software	1

The first three tables compare knowledge, skills, and abilities. For example, the first table lists knowledge elements for Budget Analysts in the first column, and the next three columns provide their ratings<sup>1</sup>. The first is the average for all occupations, the second is the focus occupation's rating (in this case Budget Analysts), and the third column is the associated occupation's rating (in this case Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks). The maximum rating is 25.

Economics and accounting, mathematics, and administration and management are the highest-rated knowledge elements for Budget Analysts. Although Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks have a strong rating for economics and accounting (11.5 compared to the average of 4.4) it is well below what would be required of a Budget Analyst (19.2). The same can be said for mathematics, and the deficiency in administration and management is even more pronounced.

The column at the far right gives an evaluation of the comparative ratings. Clearly, from an entry-level position as an Accounting Clerk, Ryan would need a lot of additional education, training, and experience to become a Budget Analyst.

There is a similarity rating at the top of each of the knowledge, skills, and abilities table. On the skills table, Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks and Budget Analysts have a similarity rating of 88 out of 100, which means the two occupations' skills ratings are highly correlated. Although the two occupations are at different levels, many of the elements that are the most important for Budget Analysts are also important for Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks.

There are also tables that identify detailed work activities the two occupations have in common, and which tools and technologies both use. These tables also provide similarity ratings. The "exclusivity" rating in the far right column shows how unique the activity or tool/technology is, from 1 to 100. The higher the score, the less common it is among other occupations.

The modest rating of 71 on the activities table indicates that although they share a number of activities, a Budget Analyst performs many activities an Accounting Clerk would not.

### Exploring the associated occupation further

If Ryan is still interested in exploring Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks, he can click on the occupation title to view its career lattice. The associated occupations on that page may include other intermediate occupations that could lead him to his goal.

To find additional detailed information about an occupation, Ryan can visit its O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) page by clicking on the link in the Career Lattice Information menu to the right of the career lattice. The O\*NET page provides other potentially related occupations (at the bottom of the page), occupation descriptions, number of years of experience required and more.

<sup>1</sup>Selection of key elements and ratings are based on analysis of the Occupation Information Network) O\*NET database. This database is a collection of results from surveys by expert analysts. [Visit the O\\*NET site](#)